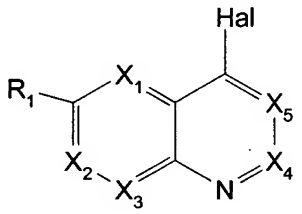
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 31 as indicated below. Deletions appear in ~~strikethrough font~~, and additions are underlined.

Complete list of claims

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

20. **(Previously presented)** A compound of formula (III)



(III)

wherein:

X_1 is >C-R'$_1$;

X_2 is >C-R'$_2$;

X_3 is >C-R'$_3$;

X_4 is >C-R'$_4$;

X_5 is >C-F;

and, optionally, one of X_1, X_2, X_3, and X_4 is a nitrogen atom;

R_1, R'$_1$, R'$_2$, R'$_3$, and R'$_4$ are identical or different, and each independently is:

a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl, cycloalkyl, phenyl, phenylthio, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl or heterocyclylthio, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, alkylthio, trifluoromethylthio, cycloalkyloxy,

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cycloalkylthio, cyano, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, -NRaRb or -CONRaRb radical

for which Ra and Rb are independently hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl, or

Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle which can optionally contain an additional heteroatom chosen from O, S and N and, when the additional heteroatom is N, the additional heteroatom optionally is substituted with an alkyl, phenyl or mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl substituent and, when the additional heteroatom is S, the additional heteroatom optionally is sulfinyl or sulfonyl,

or a methylene radical substituted with fluoro, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, alkylthio, cycloalkyloxy, cycloalkylthio, phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, -NRaRb or -CONRaRb

for which Ra and Rb are defined as above, and are additionally chosen from phenoxy, heterocyclyloxy, benzyloxy, and heterocyclylmethyloxy,

and, optionally,

R_1 is difluoromethoxy, or a radical of structure $-C_mF_{2m+1}$, $-SC_mF_{2m+1}$, or $-OC_mF_{2m+1}$ wherein m is an integer from 1 to 6;

Hal is chlorine, bromine or iodine;

wherein any alkyl or acyl radical or portion, unless otherwise indicated,

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comprises from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in a straight or branched chain, and any cycloalkyl radical comprises from 3 to 6 carbon atoms;

with the proviso that the compound of formula (III) is not 3-fluoro-4-chloro-6,7-dimethoxy-quinoline.

21. **(Previously presented)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is bromine or iodine.

22. **(Previously presented)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is iodine.

23. **(Previously presented)** 4-Chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

24. **(Previously presented)** 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

25. **(Previously presented)** 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

26. **(Previously presented)** 3-Fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

27. **(Previously presented)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is chlorine, comprising fluorinating the corresponding 4-chloro-quinoline.

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28. **(Previously presented)** The process according to claim 27, wherein the compound prepared is 4-chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 4-chloro-6-methoxyquinoline.

29. **(Previously presented)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is bromine, comprising brominating the corresponding 3-fluoro-4-hydroxyquinoline.

30. **(Previously presented)** The process according to claim 29, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

31. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is iodine, comprising:
contacting the corresponding 3-fluoro-quinoline with a suitable base, and
~~brominating~~ iodating the product resulting from the previous step.

32. **(Previously presented)** The process according to claim 31, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.

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REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

After entering this amendment, claims 20-32 are pending in this application. Only claim 31 is being amended in this paper. Claim 31 is amended to more clearly define the invention by replacing "brominating" with "iodating" in order to be consistent with the process described in the preamble of the claim "for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is iodine." The process of claim 31 finds support in the methods described generally at p. 35-40, paragraphs [085] to [099], e.g., at paragraphs [091] to [093], as well as in p. 458-459, paragraphs [03521] to [03524].

CONCLUSION

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment, and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: _____
Carlos M. Tellez
Reg. No. 48,638

Dated: August 28, 2003

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